



## A REMEBERANCE OF VALLEY FORGE

As a counterpoint to the bright flowers and new growth of the spring, Compatriots Bob O'Neal and Stan Wills of the Washington Society have provided a reminder of what our ancestors endured during the bleak winters of the Revolution.

To provide additional context, Surgeon General and Colorguardsman Dr Rudy Byrd has provided a short article of the effects of exposure and hypothermia on the human body (see Page 4).

Photographs by Captain Stan Wills and Lt Colonel Bob O'Neal



23 January 2012

By: Lt Col Bob O'Neal  
Commander, Washington Society SAR

Spokane, WA - Compatriot Stanley Wills, President and Color Guard Captain of the Spokane Chapter remembered his ancestor at Valley Forge as he was reading an article on Valley Forge.

Toasty warm, he gets a cup of coffee and wonders as the wind is howling and the outside temperature is 21 degrees. Outside is an expanse of white.

“Was this the kind of winter he faced long ago when our troops camped in tents at Valley Forge? How could they stand it dressed in parts of uniforms, with no overcoats, some with no shoes, no stockings, rags wrapped around their feet?”

Captain Wills, a veteran of 30 years in the US Navy, who spent many times out in the elements asks, “How long could I stand it, how long could I survive with scant clothing and no shoes in these conditions?”

He puts on his uniform, the uniform of a Continental soldier in 1776—only

without his overcoat, shoes or stockings.

Marching across the snow in his yard at first seems bracing in the falling snow. But the warmth of the hearthside fades and he feels the sharp, icy cold begin to attack through the regimental clothing.

After five minutes it feels like sharp pins are coming up through the soles of his feet. He shudders and wraps his arms tight. In ten minutes, his soles are numb and his body is shivering. After fifteen minutes, he can no longer feel his feet.

He marches back to the house and lets his feet gradually warm by the fire. They get itchy as they thaw, but he's soon back to normal.

He sends me an email with a picture of his feet. He states, “I dressed up today in my uniform and went outside bare foot and without a coat. I was outside for 15 minutes and had to come back in. I can't imaging what it was like for the men to live outside for the winter. If you want to understand what they went through, try it.”

I was impressed and donned my uniform and went out barefoot. It was 30 degrees

in Tacoma. Snow was eight inches deep. After ten minutes, I too was ready to return to my hearth.

I believe that this experience gave us a first-hand appreciation for the travails of our ancestors who endured.

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THE PURPOSE OF THIS NEWSLETTER IS TO PROVIDE INTERESTING ARTICLES ABOUT THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE ACTIVITIES OF YOUR CHAPTER AND/OR STATE COLOR GUARDS

THE SAR COLORGUARDSMAN

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Subscriptions are sent automatically to all state society color guard commanders.

Commander: J Michael Tomme (GA)

Vice-Commander: Michael Radcliff (TX)

Adjutants: Dave Hoover (MD) Mark C Anthony (SC)

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Commander's Dispatch



NSSAR COLOR GUARD COMMANDER J MICHAEL TOMME

As we roll out the third "The SAR Color Guardsman" newsletter, I would like to say thank you to all who have told me personally that they truly enjoyed the first and second web based newsletters. I would also like to thank all who contributed articles and pictures to make this communication piece a success. Please continue to submit information that you would like to share with other guardsmen.

We have several events of great importance coming up and I hope that you can attend some of them. As you know we will again have the vigil at the Tomb of George and Martha Washington. The tomb is lo-

cated on the grounds of Mount Vernon. This will be held on the 8 September 2012. The time will be from 9:00 a.m. till 9:00 p.m. We will meet about 8:30 a. m. and march as a unit to the tomb for the first group to get into place at 9:00 a. m. Information was sent to the State Commanders to be filtered down to the chapter level on where to meet and to park.

The same day there will be a wreath laying program at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery. This will be presented by the George Washington SAR Chapter located in Arlington, VA. This will start at 4:15 p.m. You should arrive at least 45 minutes early.

The next event is the 225th of the Signing of the Constitution. This will take place on 14-15 September 2012 in Philadelphia, PA. I hope that we have a large showing of Guardsmen and SAR Compatriots at this event. This information was sent to the State Commanders to be

to be filtered down to the chapter level.

Also, remember to look at the SAR home page for upcoming events that are not listed in the newsletter. We have several other events coming up and we need to make sure that our Color Guards are out front at these events. Editor, Mark Anthony will also list upcoming events in our newsletter.

It has been a pleasure to award numerous Bronze and Silver Color Guardsmen awards during my travel at these various events. Each of you put in the hard work to achieve these medals and it is also an honor to personally present them to you.

Yours in Patriotism,

J. Michael Tomme, Sr.

J. Michael "Mike" Tomme, Sr.

NSSAR, National Color Guard Commander

From the Editor



EDITOR MARK C ANTHONY

This issue of The SAR Colorguardsman features the first solicited article from Surgeon General Rudy Byrd MD (and member of the Arizona Society Color

Guard).

The solicitation was the result of receiving the article on the front page from Washington Society Color Guard Commander Bob O'Neal. The hope is that this type of article is one of benefit to the Color Guard.

Besides continuing to document the activities of the NSSAR Color Guard, this is the first in hopefully many "how to" and historical articles that have been an anticipated component of this publi-

cation since its inception.

Submissions of stories and pictures of color guard activity from eight societies and various national events.

Please contact me at the earliest so we can discuss the publication parameters for article and photograph submissions which should be sent to:

12 Misty Oaks Dr Greer, SC 29651

manthony.psy90@gtalumni.org



## ***NSSAR Color Guard Participation at Tomb of the Unknowns Requested***

By: J Michael Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Commander

The upcoming events that will be held at Arlington National Cemetery in September 2012 and April 2013.

On 8 September 2012, at 4:15 p.m., the George Washington SAR Chapter will be presenting a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown, and they have requested members of the National Color Guard to take part in this ceremony. You would need to arrive at least one hour before the ceremony and no later than 45 minutes before.

On 13 April 2013, at 4:15 p.m., the President General will be presenting a wreath at Arlington National Cemetery at the Tomb of the Unknown. The National Color Guard has been requested to be a part of this ceremony by the George Washington SAR Chapter. You would need to arrive at least one hour before the ceremony and no later than 45 minutes before.

Please mark your calendars and please pass onto your Chapter Commanders so anyone who wants to attend can do so. Thank you for your time and we look forward to seeing you at one of these ceremonies.

### ***2012 National Color Guard Events***

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
January 14	Battle of Cowpens	Chesnee, SC
February 11	Battle of Kettle Creek	Washington, GA
February 18	Crossing of the Dan	South Boston, VA
February 19	Washington's Birthday Parade	Laredo, TX
February 22	California Massing of Colors	Burbank, CA
February 25	Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge	Currie, NC
March 2-5	NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
March 5	Last Naval Battle of the Revolution	Cape Canaveral, FL
March 17	Battle of Guilford Courthouse	Greensboro, NC
April 7	Halifax Resolves	Halifax, NC
April 16-18	Patriot's Day	Concord, MA
May 3	Kentucky Derby Pegasus Parade	Louisville, KY
May 12	Battle of Pensacola	Pensacola, FL
May 19-20	Fields of Honor / Healing Field	Various
May 28	Spirit of Vincennes Rendezvous	Vincenne, IN
June 9	Battle of Ramseur's Mill	Lincolnton, NC
June 17	Battle of Bunker Hill	Bunker Hill, MA
July 7-12	NSSAR National Congress	Phoenix, AZ
July 28	Battle of Fort Laurens	Bolivar, OH
September 15	Gathering at Sycamore Shoals	Elizabethton, TN
September 28-29	NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting	Louisville, KY
October 1	Point Pleasant Battle Days	Point Pleasant, WV
October 7	Battle of Kings Mountain	Blacksburg, SC
October 19	Yorktown Days	Yorktown, VA
Nov 30 - Dec 2	Battle of Great Bridge	Norfolk, VA
December 10	Wreaths Across America	Various

The table to the left lists the events that have been designated as National events for the NSSAR Color Guard with respect to generating points for Color Guard Medal consideration.

Dates are mostly approximate. Guardsmen should consult the state society website for the most current information and contact points.

Also, any event where the President General is in attendance is automatically considered a national event.



Uniform worn by George Washington on display at the National Museum of American History





## *A Color Guardsman's Guide to Hypothermia - or How not to turn bluer than your uniform*

By: Abraham Ruddell Byrd III, M.D.  
Surgeon General

Gen. Washington wrote that one could track the Revolutionary Army by their bloody footprints in the snow as they marched barefoot and in rags toward Valley Forge. Our intrepid compatriots Stan Wills and Bob O'Neal, as noted in the front page article, recently duplicated this by marching barefoot in the snow of Washington State. "In 10-15 minutes the soles were numb, and the general loss of bodily heat unbearable to the participants."

What happens to the human body with this kind of extreme exposure? What happened to our ancestors? What happens to us? How do we prevent cold-induced injury and death? What specific precautions might we consider as living historians and re-enactors?

Cold injury can be divided into systemic and local, including Hypothermia, "frostnip" and frostbite, chilblains, immersion foot, and others. The cause is of course exposure to cold, coupled with factors which lead to the body's inability to retain core temperature, and while the likelihood is greater at more extreme cold temperatures, hypothermia can occur even at 60+ degrees under the right circumstances.

"*Frostnip*" is frostbite lite: The affected tissues, usually on extremities, ears, nose, can turn firm, cold, and white but they are not permanently frozen (usually because duration is short) and can recover. Sensation is abnormal in the affected tissues (note our Compatriots' description of numbness) and maybe hypersensitive afterwards.

*Frostbite* is much more serious caused by ice crystals forming inside the cells of the affected part, leading to cell death. On warmth, but become blotchy, red swollen and painful and blisters form within hours. If freezing is transient and superficial the affected area may recover without permanent loss, but if deeper and more extensive, gangrene results and major loss of tissue occurs. Initially the victim may suffer no pain and have simply abnormal sensation (a Battle of the Bulge survivor described feeling with his feet the "velvet covering" of the basement floor in which he was hiding; there was of course no velvet, he was getting frostbite).

Treatment is aimed at gradually re-warming the affected parts and saving as much as possible. This is not done with hot water but rather warm-otherwise greater damage can be done to tissues with already compromised circulation. The best treatment of course is prevention with good clothing, shoes, dry socks, etc.- something our Revolutionary ancestors could not well do.

The formal definition of *Hypothermia* is a fall of body temperature to <95°F, although that would have made little difference to our Revolutionary War ancestors. They would have experienced simply the bitter cold of the "Little Ice Age" winter in Pennsylvania and elsewhere, what they had to endure at Valley Forge, before Trenton, and countless other places during the Revolution.

Bodily functions occur in a relatively narrow temperature range, outside of which progressive disorder occurs. Our normal response to cold exposure, shivering and positioning ourselves to avoid heat loss, stops occurring as hypothermia ensues. "When shivering stops, lethargy and confusion increase, a major emergency is imminent." Someone starting into hypothermia becomes clumsy, lethargic, confused, irritable, and can have hallucinations. Descriptions by those who have experienced milder episodes are that the intolerable shivering stops, and that they begin to feel unaccountably warm, and sleepy. Ultimately as the core temperature drops below 90°F, the person becomes comatose, and at 85° to 75°F all muscles began to lose function, including cardiac muscle, and the heart stops.

Treatment is aimed at restoring normal body temperature, getting the victim into warm dry clothing and a warm environment as soon as possible, but the best treatment here also is prevention: Our wool uniforms are helpful here, as are our hats (30% of our heat loss is from our heads; and wool is far better than cotton or other fabrics when wet in continuing to insulate us against heat loss). Keeping well fed, and well hydrated, having access to dry clothes if one is likely to get wet, hot liquids-all are helpful in prevention. *Avoid alcohol!* Alcohol make you feel warmer by dilating blood vessels in the extremities, but this actually accelerates heat loss.

There are some special concerns I have for our SAR Color Guardsmen:

Many of us are older, including some of our most active and loyal Color Guardsmen. While I suspect that we are, as a group, significantly healthier, Americans over 65 have on average 6 chronic diseases per individual. Many of these-along with the medicines used to treat them-can result in decreased peripheral circulation, including diabetes, chronic heart disease, congestive failure, kidney and thyroid disorders.

This makes us more susceptible to cold injury then our ill-fed, ill-clothed but basically healthy teenage Revolutionary War ancestors.

So when you are out there, in the snow, in the rain, and in the wind-*and I know you will be*-keep an eye out for your fellows. All of you are too valuable to lose.



### State Society Color Guard Commander Contact Information

The following is the current listing of state society color guard commanders. Those that are confirmed are in **BOLD TEXT**.

Those state societies that are not confirmed are asked to send updated information to the editor.

No Color Guards: Alaska, Dakotas, Delaware, District of Columbia, Hawaii, Louisiana, Michigan, Montana, Nebraska, Rhode island, and Wyoming

Alabama	Larry Cronwell	lacornwell (at) aol.com	334-277-4654	334-538-2954	Montgomery, AL
Arizona	Richard T Perry, MD	boset (at) aol.com	602-212-0030		Phoenix, AZ
Arkansas	Danny Honnoll	danny (at) honnoll.com	870-935-9830	870-926-2985	
California	James C Fosdyck	colorguard (at) californiasar.org	714-530-0767	714-932-4097	Garden Grove, CA
Colorado	Dave Mann	dtmann (at) q.com	719-547-8780	719-235-3985	Pueblo West, CO
Connecticut	Todd Gerlander	eleventh.ct.reg.t.sar (at) snet.net	860-872-0438		Tolland, CT
Florida	Philip Tarpley	mp18pht (at) verizon.net	941-497-2704		Venice, FL
Georgia	Dr Ed Rigel Sr	compatriotrigel (at) charter.net	770-534-7043	678-617-4331	Gainesville, GA
Idaho	John Freeman	johnfreeman2 (at) msn.com	208-383-0394		
Illinois	Thomas D Ashby	dashby (at) me.com	309-897-8483	309-202-4067	Bradford, IL
Indiana	Stuart Hart	sar.stuart (at) gmail.com	317-849-0882		Indianapolis, IN
Iowa	Mike Rowley	mjr1825 (at) gmail.com	515-225-6349	515-975-0498	Clive, IA
Kansas	Robert Capps	bobcapps (at) msn.com	816-838-5500		Lee's Summit, MO
Kentucky	Dennis Scott	garand_guy (at) junio.com	502-349-0308		Bardstown, KY
Maine	Paul Salisbury	paul (at) mainecreations.com	207-942-9586		Bangor, ME
Maryland	David H Embrey	dembry (at) comcast.net	301-776-0235		Savage, MD
Massachusetts	Steven G Perkins	patriotmarcher (at) gmail.com	508-877-0073	781-891-0230	Framingham, MA
Minnesota	Paul K Theisen	pstheis36 (at) mainstreet.com	320-351-6221		Sauk Centre, MN
Mississippi	John R Taylor Jr	taylorj1947 (at) yahoo.com	601-733-9475	601-941-2977	Mize, MS
Missouri	Robert L Grover	GroverSAR (at) aol.com	816-373-5309	816-803-5215	Independence, MO
Nevada	Rev Anthony A Perry	clonnadgh (at) embarqmail.com	702-228-1438	702-810-3291	Las Vegas, NV
New Hampshire	Hans E Jackson	hansejack (at) comcast.net	603-548-5746		Derry, NH
New Jersey	Richard Blundin	richardswb (at) msn.com	908-755-1589		
New Mexico	George Garcia	garciasar30 (at) gmail.com	205-235-9422		Albuquerque, NM
New York	Peter K Goebel	goebelpk (at) gmail.com	518-774-9740		
North Carolina	Richard Bishop	decadel (at) embarqmail.com	910-864-1279		Fayetteville, NC
Ohio	Tony Robinson	wrobinson3 (at) columbus.rr.com	740-474-6463	740-412-1929	Circleville, OH
Oklahoma	Glenn K Fast	glennandpaula (at) suddenlink.net	580-234-1480		Enid, OK
Oregon	Mark S Robertson	robertson19 (at) yahoo.com	503-429-2090		Veronia, OR
Pennsylvania	MG Donald J Tressler	djt2 (at) psu.edu	814-466-7143		State College, PA
South Carolina	Robert (Bob) Krause	b_krause (at) bellsouth.net	864-878-1379	864-430-3055	Pickens, SC
Tennessee	James Stone	sar1783 (at) yahoo.com	423-339-3832		McDonald, TN
Texas	Peter Rowley	ewfarm87 (at) airmail.net	972-424-3954	214-533-9981	Plano, TX
Utah	Lyle Gingery	bltging (at) msn.com	801-487-6809		Salt Lake City, UT
Vermont	Geoffrey Gunther	colbydrypowder (at) hotmail.com	617-669-8141		Waitsfield, VT
Virginia	Robert B Andrews	rbais (at) rbais.com	540-465-8809		Strasburg, VA
Washington	Bob O'Neal	wroneal (at) aol.com	253-752-8242		Tacoma, WA
West Virginia	John H Sauer	sweetsauer (at) suddenlink.net	304-675-2703		Point Pleasant, WV
Wisconsin	Aaron Krebs	lmkack (at) charter.net	608-663-1652		Madison, WI



**REPORTS FROM THE FIELD**

*Georgia Society*

**Georgia Society SAR Annual Color Guard Awards Luncheon**

Thirty-eight Color Guardsmen and guests attended the recent Georgia Society 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Color Guard Awards Luncheon. The luncheon provides an opportunity for fellowship in a low key setting and for recognition of the accomplishments of members over the previous year. Serving as Master of Ceremonies was State Commander Ed Rigel, Sr. National Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme assisted with the award presentations.

Three individuals were presented Bronze and Silver Color Guard Medals – Jim Lynch, Bruce Maney, and James Stallings. The Georgia Society also recognizes members who have a record of outstanding participation in State and National events. Members who have participated in at least 100 events are recognized as having achieved Honor Guard status. Recognized this year were Bruce Maney, Ed Rigel, Sr., Larry Whitfield, and Rhett Williamson. Terry Manning and Mike Tomme received Senior Honor Guard recognition for having participated in over 200 events.

The Georgia Society recognizes the support of the spouses of Guardsmen with the presentation of the Camp Followers Award. To earn the award, a Guardsman must have been in the Guard for at least three years and his Camp Follower must have attended at least ten events with him. A Camp Follower Award certificate and Outstanding Citizen pin were presented to Charlene Maney.

Ed Rigel, Jr., 2010 Rookie of the Year, assisted in the presentation of the Rookie of the Year Award. The award is presented to the Guardsman who first began participating during the year and who has demonstrated a commitment to participate in the events and activities of the Color Guard. The 2011 Rookie of the Year was Allen Greenly.

New this year was the Commander’s Award. This award is presented to the Color Guard member who, in the opinion of the Commander, best represents the Color Guard in all his activities on behalf of the GA Society SAR. The first recipient of the Commander’s Award was Bruce Maney.

The Commander summarized the activity of the Georgia Society Color Guard during 2011. Sixty-four members, including twelve rookies, participated in eighty-two State and National events for a total of 782 member events. Commander Rigel wrapped up the program with a humorous, and sometimes irreverent, “Year in Review Slide Show” spotlighting some of the high, and low, lights of Color Guard participation over the past year. A good time was had by all.

Respectfully submitted – Ed Rigel, Sr., Commander, Georgia Society SAR Color Guard

Photos courtesy of Allen Greenly.



NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme and GA Society Commander Ed Rigel Sr present Silver Color Guard medals to Bruce Maney (top), James Stallings and Jim Lynch at Georgia’s annual color guard banquet.





## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### *Wisconsin Society*

The WISSAR Color Guard presented the colors to open up the luncheon for WSLs (Wisconsin Society of Land Surveyors) at their 25 January 2012 institute at the Kalahari Resort in Lake Delton Wisconsin. WSLs is a statewide organization representing the majority of Land Surveyors licensed to practice in Wisconsin. And we all know that Presidents Washington and Jefferson were land surveyors.

Color guard members in attendance included Roger Boeker, Russ Buhr, Gerry Helgeson, Mark Nelson, Mike Nelson, Brian Barrett, Harold Klubertanz and Aaron Krebs.

The color guard participated in this event with heavy hearts as color guard member Ed Pierog passed away 2 days prior.

By: Aaron C. Krebs, WISSAR Secretary



WISSAR Color Guard at WSLs Institute. Photo provided by: Darrell Holt

### *Indiana Society*

The INSSAR is in relationship with the Indiana War Memorial (IWM) located in Indianapolis. In addition to helping design and fund the remodeling of the Revolutionary War display, IWM tour support is now underway. Pictured below are compatriots Jim Arnold and Bob Howell from the Guthrie chapter manning the Revolutionary War display (pictured in the background). To have the color guard presence at tours is greatly appreciated by the Indiana War Memorial personnel as well as the touring crowds. This helps further the Educational and Historical aspects of the SAR mission with "living history" compatriots present to answer questions and offer historical information.

In addition, INSSAR compatriot Wade Hartman manned the WWI display as a "living history" representative. As two guardsmen is the best number for a display, compatriot Harshman (Clarence Cook) will rotate between the Revolutionary War display and the WWI display. Compatriot Earl Salisbury (Clarence Cook) has also participated at the Revolutionary War display. More INSSAR

guardsmen will be participating as the tour program ramps up for the summer.

When tours are scheduled, the tour information is passed from the IWM to the INSSAR person of contact, and compatriots are notified of the opportunity. This effort began in 2012.

By: Stuart Hart, Commander, INSSAR Color Guard

Photo by: Andrea Short, Museum Specialist at the Indiana War Memorial





## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### Connecticut Society

Compatriots of The Connecticut Line, Living History/Color Guard Unit of the Connecticut Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and its Camp-Followers outside J. Timothy's Tavern in Plainville, CT. The Color Guard's Annual Meeting is held here each year around George Washington's Birthday to discuss the upcoming Campaign. The CTSSAR has the largest SAR Color Guard in New England with over 65 Compatriots in Uniform. The Unit participates in 20 to 30 events each year ranging from Ceremonies, Historical Reenactments/ Encampments and Parades in Connecticut and throughout New England.

By: Geoffrey G Colby, CTSSAR Color Guard  
Photos provided by: Geoffrey G Colby



### South Carolina Society

On March 28th, the Colonel William Bratton Chapter hosted a grave marking to honor its namesake and his wife Martha Bratton at the Bethesda Presbyterian Church in York, SC.

The color guard was comprised of members of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association, SC Society, NC Society and GA Society.

A total of 96 people attended the grave marking and were treated to talks about the lives of both William and Martha Bratton by local historians.

Following the grave marking, Bethesda Presbyterian hosted a reception.

By: Mark C Anthony, Past President , SC Society



Photo (above): Massed Color Guard at the Bratton grave site.

Photo by: Greg Greenawalt, President, Colonel William Bratton Chapter

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Photo (right): Posting the Colors

Photo by: Mecklenburg Chapter, NCSSAR





## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### *Florida Society*

By: Phillip Tarpley, Commander, FLSSAR Color Guard

The Laurel Oak Country Club was the scene Saturday, 25 February 2012 for the annual Saramana Chapter George Washington's Birthday Luncheon. Phillip H. Tarpley, FLSSAR Senior VP and originator of the Saramana SAR Wounded Warrior Project served as Master of Ceremonies and Lt Col Dr Rich Swier, President of the Sarasota County Veterans Commission was the featured speaker. Special guests included members of the 5 local chapters of the DAR, the Military Order of Purple Heart Chapter 759, and the Knights of Columbus Patriot Honor Guard. Clearwater and Tampa SAR Chapter Color Guard members joined the Saramana Color & Honor Guard members. A total of 219 honorees and guests including 33 Wounded Warriors, 24 honored female veterans and two parents were there to receive the recognition.

The "Wounded Warriors" chosen by the Military Order of the Purple Heart received the Saramana SAR Chapter Wounded Warrior Medal and Wounded Warrior Certificate Award. Female Veterans from several Veteran organizations received the SAR Military Service Award and the Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition. Ms Joan Hansen from U.S. Representative Vern Buchanan's Office presented the Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition.

All of the Honorees are military men and women from WW II, Korea, Vietnam, Persian Gulf War, and the current Iraq and Afghanistan war. JROTC Cadets from Venice, North Port, and Gulf Coast High Schools and the Sarasota Military Academy in full dress uniform escorted all of the Honorees through the 12 member Colonial Patriot Honor Guard of SAR and Knights of Columbus to receive their award.

Florida SAR Society Sgt. at Arms Chuck Barrett escorted the parents of two Heroes from the Afghanistan War past the Honor Guard to introduce them. The report for the issuance of the Purple Heart Medal for each was read as the parents received the Awards. Phillip H. Tarpley, Lt. Col. Dr. Rich Swier, and Joan Hansen presented them the SAR Wounded Warrior Medal with certificate and the Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition Award.

Chief Petty Officer Brian Robert Bill, 31 of Virginia Beach, VA, was killed in action on August 6, 2011 in Wardak province, eastern Afghanistan. He was the son of Scott Bill of Sarasota who received his medal. In June 2001, CPO Bill enlisted in the United States Navy to pursue his life-long dream of becoming a U.S. Navy SEAL being designated as such in 2003. During his career, he received the following personal awards: 3 Bronze Stars with Valor, Joint Service Commendation Medal with Valor, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, two Combat Action Ribbons and three Good Conduct Medals.

Pamela Becker escorted by Jr. SAR Member Percival Hill (JROTC Cadet) is mother of 25 year old, U.S. Army Spec. Tamara Maria Becker, a recent graduate of Venice HS. She accepted the SAR Wounded Warrior Medal on her behalf because Tamara is still serving in Afghanistan as a Medic. She received the Purple Heart Medal on October 26, 2011 when her convoy was ambushed twice in the Tangi Valley and she was wounded. Tamara told her mother in a letter that after all the bombs went off, trying to walk was like being in a little boat in a storm. After her adrenaline rush subsided, she took stock of how bad she was wounded, and then went into action to help the other wounded. Later the wife of an Army major who credited Tamara as saving her life said of her, "she was a Hero that day".

The audience gave them a standing ovation and as Taps played to close the ceremonies there were tears in the eyes of nearly everyone. Several Veterans came forward afterward to say this was the most emotional event they have ever been involved in and thanked Saramana SAR for remembering the service of America's real heroes. ABC News carried the story of the event on the 6 and 11 PM news.

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The General Lighthorse Harry Lee Camp, Florida Sons of Liberty Brigade Color Guard participated in the rededication ceremony of the recently refurbished Iwo Jima monument in Cape Coral, Florida on Saturday, February 25, which was two days after the 67th anniversary of the flag raising. It is one of only three made by Felix DeWeldon depicting the scene in the Joe Rosenthal photograph of five Marines and a Navy corpsman raising the American flag on Mount Suribachi during WWII. Over a dozen survivors of the Iwo Jima battle attended the ceremony and were introduced to a very appreciative crowd; Caloosa Chaplain Allen Brown provided the invocation and benediction for the event. Guardsmen participating are Randy D. Moody, Philip Moody, Bob Easterly, and Earl Kennedy.

Details participating included (in order) USMC Color Guard, 4th Amphibious Battalion, Tampa, FL; USMC Honor Rifle Detail, 4th Tank Battalion, Hialeah, FL; General Lighthorse Harry Lee Camp SAR Color Guard, Caloosa Chapter; VFW Post 8364 Color Guard, Cape Coral, FL; and Lexington CC Veterans Color Guard, Fort Myers, FL.





## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### California Society

Members of the General George Patton, Harbor, Kern County, Orange County, South Coast, Redlands, Riverside and Sons of Liberty chapters of the California Society participated in the 30th Massing of Colors on February 22, 2012. Color guardsman Jim Blauer sang the National Anthem.

The Massing of Colors is held annually on Washington’s Birthday at Forest Lawn Cemetery in Burbank, CA. It is also a National Event.

By: Jim Fosdyck, CASSAR Color Guard Commander

Photo by: Un Hui Yi



Photo above: South Coast Continental Marines (l-r) Richard Bent, Leon Smith, Jerry Hereford, Mel Butler and Curtis Porter.

Photo to left: Kern County Chapter Color Guard on the march. (l to r) Jim Claxton, Kerry Adams, Jon Keith, Trenton Spears and Brian Claxton.



Compatriot Peter Darnall of the Sacramento Chapter, CASSAR sent the photo to the right taken at a Presidents Day Ceremony. Compatriot Darnall is a photographer by avocation.

“My interest with images is to enhance the image of the SAR in the eyes of the public. I am always impressed at the enthusiastic reception the colorful uniforms and historic flags gets from onlookers and would be gratified if my images would be of use in furthering this endeavor.”







## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### *Massachusetts Society*

On February 19th, 1945 the 4th and 5th Marine Divisions invaded Iwo Jima in order to capture the airfields on the tiny island; a crucial part of the plan to invade the Japanese mainland. The island was under Allied control by March 26<sup>th</sup>, but at a cost of more than 26,000 casualties including 6,825 deaths in thirty-six days of fighting.

On February 17, 2012, members of the Massachusetts Society's Col. Knox Regimental Artillery Color Guard, along with U.S. Marines, Marine Corps JROTC, Marine Corps League, Massachusetts State Police and the Boston Police Department, came together to honor the men and women who gave their lives 67 years earlier in the Battle of Iwo Jima.

The ceremonies began with a parade which formed at the statue of Samuel Adams at Faneuil Hall at 11 a.m., and wound through the city of Boston, finally arriving at Beacon Street, outside the State House, and concluded with a prayer, the firing of a 21 gun salute and the playing of taps by the Marine Corps League. Inside the State House, Lieutenant Governor Timothy Murray and other dignitaries also paid their respects during a moving tribute.



Color Guard members in front of Marine Corp League members at Boston Common.

Photo by: Wesley Wratchford



Members of the Massachusetts Society's Col. Knox Regimental Artillery Color Guard joined VTSSAR Compatriot and US Army Capt. Zachariah Fike for a special celebration of Lt. Thomas E. Hadley II on February 18th at the Brookhaven Auditorium in Lexington, MA featuring the return of a missing, long forgotten, but recent found Purple Heart Medal.

Hadley, born 27 July 1929, died in the line of duty 9 Nov 1951 when his F-80C aircraft was shot down over North Korea. He had previously flown 50 successful missions and on this day, the Ace pilot selflessly flew his aircraft so as draw fire toward him to save another pilot. He was listed MIA by the War Department at the age of 22. Although never married, his legacy and bravery live on through his sister Connie Hadley Bachman, her husband Charlie Bachman, and the nieces, nephews, and great nieces/nephews.

Many years ago, the medal came into the possession of the grandfather of Larry Moore. Larry acquired the medal which was in the top drawer of his father's dresser upon his death. Larry felt the medal should be given to its rightful owner and the internet facilitated this over a two week period. The Military Order of the Purple Heart researched and confirmed it was not an imposter medal, and on further research by Capt. Fike, Connie Bachman was located.

During the ceremony acknowledging this effort, U.S. Congressman Edward Markey (D-MA) and State Representative Jay Kaufman, Fifteenth Middlesex District offered words of congratulation. Commander Leon Brown, Connecticut Military Order of the Purple Heart provided a brief history of the medal.

The entire collection of Lt. Thomas E. Hadley's medals is now mounted in a beautiful presentation case. Congressman Markey presented Connie Hadley Bachman with a flag which was flown over the US Capital building on Friday, February 17, 2012.



L-R: Kenneth Doten, Allan Van Wert, Connie Hadley Bachman, Charles Bachman, Stephen Watts, Steve Perkins, and photo of Lt. Thomas E Hadley II. All of Hadley's medals and ribbons are now in the presentation case.

Photo by: James Klim

Articles by: Steven G Perkins,  
Commander, Colonel Knox Regimental  
Artillery Color Guard





## NATIONAL EVENTS

### *231st Anniversary of the Battle of Cowpens*

The NSSAR Color Guard provided a colorful start to the annual celebration of the Patriot victory at Cowpens on Saturday January 14th. Approximately forty guardsmen from nine societies paraded to the United States Monument located at the Cowpens Battlefield Visitors Center before a crowd of 200 spectators.

Greetings were brought by South Atlantic District Vice President General Charlie Newcomer and Park Superintendent John Slaughter spoke on the SAR and DAR's contributions to preserving the battlefield.

Following a wreath presentation ceremony, the Color Guard then marched onto the battlefield for a wreath presentation ceremony at the Washington Light Infantry Monument located near the location of General Daniel Morgan's second line.

By: Mark C Anthony, Past President, South Carolina Society



NSSAR Color Guard ordering arms at the start of the Wreath Presentation Ceremony at the Visitors Center.  
  
(l-r): NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Adjutant Mark Anthony, Past NC Society President Dr Sam Powell, GA Society Color Guard Commander Dr Ed Rigel Sr, SC Society Color Guard Vice Commander Dan Woodruff and Peter Davenport of the Virginia Society.  
  
Photo by: Stephanie Ann Brahin Cochran

NSSAR Color Guard on the march to the Washington Light Infantry Monument.

(l-r): Former Chaplain General Rev Clark Wisner, NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Adjutant Mark Anthony, Past NC Society President Dr Sam Powell, GA Society Color Guard Commander Dr Ed Rigel Sr, SC Society Vice Commander Dan Woodruff and members of the Color Guard

Photo by: Tom Hanson, South Carolina Society SAR







## NATIONAL EVENTS

### *233rd Anniversary of the Battle of Kettle Creek*

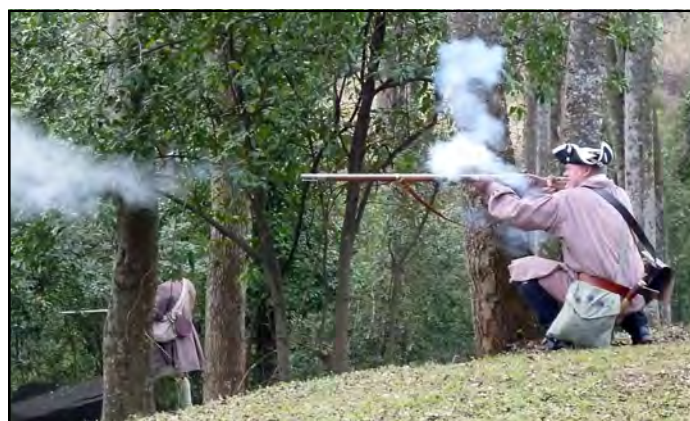
The Battle of Kettle Creek ceremony is the largest event hosted by the GA Society each year. A part of the weekend long “Revolutionary Days” activities in Washington, Wilkes County, GA, festivities kicked off with a parade around the square Saturday morning.

Traditionally the NSSAR Secretary General leads the procession, this year Stephen Leishman from Delaware. Two other National Officers also participated - Treasurer General Joseph Dooley from Virginia and Registrar General Lindsey Brock from Florida. The parade contingent this year was the largest ever as Color Guardsmen from throughout the South joined members of the DAR, C.A.R., JROTC units, local reenactors, and dignitaries from the area.

Following the parade, a skirmish reenacting the Battle of Kettle Creek was held. Chilly temperatures and brisk winds did not deter a large turnout in the afternoon for the commemorative ceremony held at War Hill outside of Washington.

Activities continued Sunday morning with a Colonial Worship Service held at historic Phillips Mill Baptist Church, organized in 1785, and concluded with a ceremony honoring the Heroes of the Hornet’s Nest held at Elijah Clarke State Park outside of Lincolnton.

By: Dr Ed Rigel Sr, Commander, GA Society Color Guard



Top: VPG Charlie Newcomer (l), Secretary General Steve Leishman and NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme lead the parade.  
Bottom: Color Guard renders honors at War Hill.  
Photos by Virgil Palmer, GA Society SAR

Top: NSSAR Color Guard parades around the square in Washington, GA as part of the Revolutionary Days activities.  
Photo by: Virgil Palmer, GA Society SAR  
Bottom: Militia skirmish as part of the reenactment of the Battle of Kettle Creek.  
Photo by: Joan Rigel, GA Society Ladies Auxiliary





## REPORTS FROM THE FIELD

### *231st Anniversary of the Battle of Guilford Courthouse*

March 17th found nearly fifty members of the NSSAR Color Guard celebrating their third national event in as many months at Guilford Courthouse outside of Greensboro, NC. Led by the Guilford Fifes and Drums, the Color Guard led visitors onto the battlefield from the Visitors Center to the statue honoring Major General Nathanael Greene. This statute is located at the approximate location of the second line of battle.

Greetings were brought by South Atlantic District Vice President General Charlie Newcomer before nearly eighty wreaths were presented. Following the wreath presentations, the New Jersey Light Infantry provided a musket salute.

By: Mark C Anthony, Adjutant, NSSAR Color Guard

Photo provided by: Mecklenburg Chapter, NC Society SAR



### *National Society SAR Spring Leadership Meeting*



NSSAR Color Guard Commander Mike Tomme (left) and Washington Society Color Guard Commander Bob O'Neal pose for the camera before one of the evening meals at the Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY this past March

Photo provided by: Mike Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Commander





## SAR to participate in 225th Anniversary of the United States Constitution

By: Bob Bowen, Coordinator, National 225th Anniversary of the Constitution, NSSAR History Committee and J Michael Tomme, NSSAR National Color Guard Commander

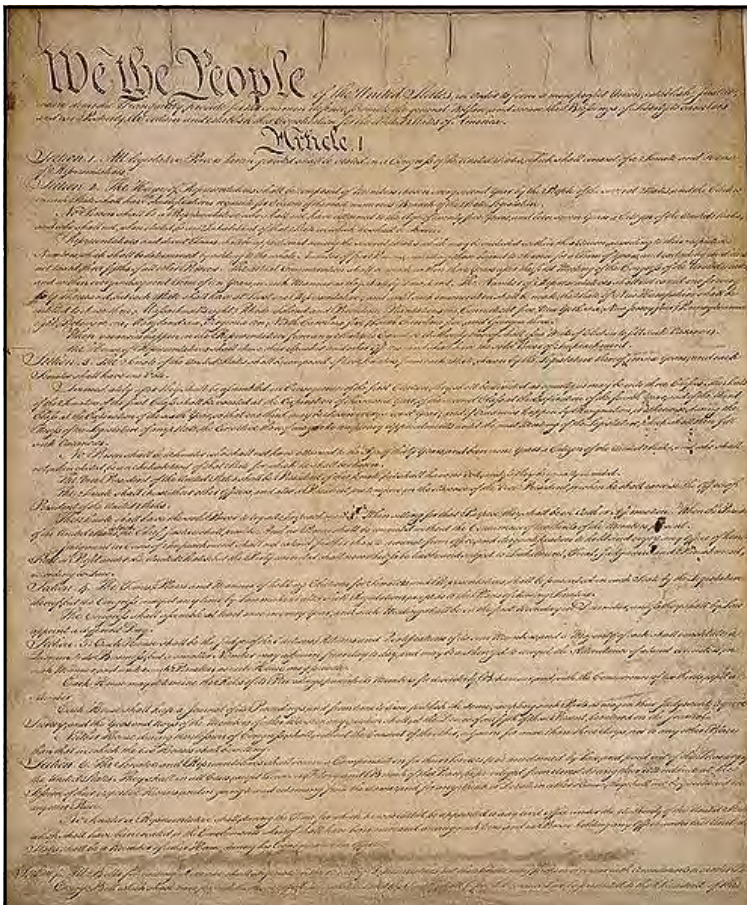
Philadelphia, PA - The SAR is indeed fortunate to have the Philadelphia Continental Chapter taking the lead in the SAR's national celebration of the 225th Anniversary of the signing of the Constitution. Mark your calendars now for September 14-15, 2012 and make plans to attend.

The NSSAR Color Guard will participate in a short parade down Chestnut Street to Independence Hall. The Color Guard has been challenged to have 100 men or more in uniform marching in this parade.

Lodging for the SAR will be at the Dolce Hotel (610-337-1200) in Valley Forge at a cost of \$109 + tax per night. Busing will be provided to and from the hotel. There are also plans for a Friday buffet dinner including entertainment and a cash bar for \$40 and a Saturday night banquet including entertainment, program and a cash bar for \$50. The President General is scheduled to be the keynote speaker at the Saturday banquet.

The SAR currently has 50 rooms reserved at the Dolce Hotel for Friday night and a dozen reserved for Saturday night. More rooms may be made available based on demand.

More details will be provided as the event date draws closer. Please watch both *The SAR Color guardsman*, *The SAR Magazine* and the NSSAR website (sar.org) for details as they become available.



Independence Hall, Philadelphia



Dolce Hotel, Valley Forge

## THE SAR COLORGUARDSMAN

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**The SAR Colorguardsman**

**The online magazine of the  
NSSAR Color Guard.**

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### ***SAR Color Guard to Stand Vigil at Washingtons' Tomb***

By: J Michael Tomme, NSSAR Color Guard Commander

For the second year in a row, the NSSAR Color Guard will stand vigil at the Tomb of George and Martha Washington on 8 September 2012 from 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

As with last year, guardsmen may sign up for 30 minute shifts.

Guardsmen will be able to park behind what is called the Hearst Gate which is located off the main parking lot. This will allow us to come and go as we please, even after the estate has closed for the evening. This Gate will be closed so you will need to use the intercom to gain admittance.

Details, as they are known, have already been emailed to state color guard commanders for dissemination.

As a note, NO type of firearm will be allowed on the property. Guardsmen may bring swords and sabers.

The following hotels are located nearby. There is no SAR block of rooms and guardsmen need to contact the hotels directly.

Quality Inn and Suites - Alexandria South Area  
8849 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309  
2.4 miles to Mt. Vernon  
Rates starting at \$90

Hampton Inn and Suites - Alexandria South Area  
8843 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22309  
2.5 miles to Mt. Vernon  
Rates starting at \$89

Springhill Suites by Marriott - Alexandria South Area  
6065 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22303  
5.5 miles to Mt. Vernon  
Rates starting at \$149

Holiday Inn Express - Alexandria South Area  
6055 Richmond Hwy, Alexandria, VA 22303  
5.6 miles to Mt. Vernon  
Rates starting at \$126

Please note that this is the weekend prior to the 225th Anniversary of the Signing of the Constitution event that is detailed on the previous page. It is also two weeks prior to the NSSAR's Fall Leadership Meeting in Louisville.